Virginia Clean Marina Program
Success Story

Smith Point Marina

Smith Point Marina is located in Reedville, VA on the Little Wicomico River. They offer 92 boat slips and 60 dry dock spaces, as well as access to charter boats. The marina conducts a wide variety of repair and maintenance services and allows access to a 12 ton travel lift. Smith Point Marina has a fully stocked ships store and full fueling capabilities.

Dedicated to Recycling and Energy-Efficiency

Smith Point Marina was certified as a Virginia Clean Marina in August of 2002. Since pledging to become a Clean Marina, Smith Point Marina has made great efforts to implement recycling and energy-efficiency programs throughout the marina. In 2002, the marina recycled over 400 gallons of waste oil, over ½ ton of aluminum cans and scrap, 1400 lbs of lead-acid batteries, 3 lbs. of toner cartridges, and 800 lbs. of shrink-wrap. They have even begun recycling old boats by reusing many of the components. In an effort to increase energy-efficiency, Smith Point Marina has installed solar energy panels on the new bathhouses and on the ship's store. They also use low-wattage fluorescent bulbs and light sensors.

In order to preserve the water quality in the marina basin, Smith Point Marina has set up a well-equipped fish cleaning station. The station is covered, screened-in, and equipped with a fish grinder. Signs are posted clearly indicating the proper methods of disposal of fish waste, and the trashcan is not allowed to be more than 2/3 full.

In an effort to reduce the volume of polluted water entering the river, Smith Point Marina encourages us of their new and well-equipped bathhouses with heat, air conditioning, and solar energy. The bathhouses are available 24-hours a day and have signs posted to encourage conservation of electricity. Also, they offer sewage pumpout services for $5 to patrons, and they have a policy discouraging discharge of boat holding tanks while in the slips or the marina basin. Smith Point Marina also makes information on impacts of sewage available to patrons.

Other environmentally-friendly techniques used by the Smith Point Marina are the following:

- Conducting oyster gardening and grass planting in order to protect the surrounding habitat
- Using environmentally neutral materials such as encapsulated foam floats
- Conserving water by using low-flow toilets, faucets, and showers
- Reviewing emergency response procedures for likely coastal hazards
- Incorporating best management practices into contracts
- Publicizing environmentally-responsible actions on the website and in the newsletter
- Visually inspecting fuel transfer equipment daily
- Minimizing the amount of solvents and hazardous materials in storage
- Using a vacuum sander to contain dust from sanding
- Prohibiting in-water maintenance
- Promoting awareness of exotic species for boats that are trailered
- Using non-toxic antifreeze for winterization

Smith Point Marina has made considerable strides in implementing these pollution prevention techniques and BMP's in order to minimize its environmental impacts. Through agreement with the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program (VEEP), Smith Point Marina has also been recognized as an "Environmental Enterprise" or E2 facility. VEEP is the Virginia DEQ's program to encourage the development of Environmental Management Systems and pollution prevention as tools for achieving long-term improvements in environmental performance. As such, it is hoped that Smith Point Marina will not only maintain its status as a Clean Marina, but will continuously improve upon its current activities. For more information on VEEP, see http://www.deq.state.va.us/veep.

For more information on Smith Point Marina, contact Dan and Jeanne Hickey at (804) 453-4077, email smithpt@crosslink.net or check out their website at http://www.crosslink.net/~smithpt/ .

The Virginia Clean Marina Program is a voluntary partnership to reduce nonpoint source pollution to Virginia's Coastal waters by helping marinas and boaters become more environmentally responsible. http://www.deq.state.va.us/vacleanmarina. For more information, please contact Harrison Bresee by email at hpbiii@vims.edu or by phone (804) 684-7768.

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